Development Agency is not providing any assistance specifically for development of hilly areas of Orissa.

(b) Does not arise.

Crisis in film Industry

2145. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to appoint a fresh enquiry committee to go into the crisis faced by the film industry;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in negative what other steps Government propose to take to save the film industry from its problems such as competition from T.V. video?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (c) There is no evidence to establish any crisis in film industry as such there is no proposal under consideration to appoint an Enquiry Committee. Television and Video are technological advances. They are there to stay. It does not seem as if these have posed a serious threat to the film industry. In any event, the film industry which is in private sector should find a way to live with such technological advances.

Steps to freeze Swiss accounts of Indian Nationals

2146. SHRI T. R. BALU:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken by Government to freeze Swiss accounts of Indian nationals;

(b) whether any Indian delegation did visit Switzerland in this regard; if so, who were its members and what is the resume of the talks they had with Swiss officials in this regard;

(c) whether any formal request has been made by Government or delegation on the question of freezing of these accounts; and

(d) if so, what was the response of the Swiss Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) to (d) A team of experts headed by Shri A. Ghosh, Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India was deputed to Switzerland to obtain first hand information on the existing Swiss legal frame-work and procedures for obtaining information from Swiss Bank and to study the treaties/ agreements entered into by Switzerland with other countries for mutual assistance in investigation of criminal matters. Other members of the team were Shiv V. G. Hegde, Principal Legal Advisor, Reserve Bank of India, Bombay, Shri A. K. Aggarwal, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs (Banking Division) and Dr. P. S. Rao, Director (Legal & Treaties), Ministry of External Affairs.

The team held discussions with representatives and officials of the Swiss Division of International Legal Assistance and Police Matters, Swiss National Bank and the Swiss Federal Banking Commission. Based on their discussions, the team has concluded that:

(i) Though Swiss authorities would not permit generalised enquiries or ordinarily divulge iformation about customers' accounts, Swiss Banking secrecy could be lifted and information about customers' accounts obtained by securing appropriate court orders in Switzerland.

(ii) The Swiss Federal Act on International Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (IMAC) provides for rendering